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DATE: November 23, 2004

Commissioner for Patents TO:

FROM: David M. Crompton

Attn: Examiner B. Pantuck

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

OUR REF. 100L1440101

TELEPHONE: 612-677-9050

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Applicant: Jeffrey M. Wendlandt

Serial No.: 10/072,697 Filed: February 7, 2002 Group Art Unit: 3731

Our Ref. No.: 1001.1440101 Confirmation No.: 2520 Customer No.: 28075

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Name: Kathleen L. Boekley

November 23, 2004

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

Jeffrey M. Wendlandt

Confirmation No.: 2520

Serial No.:

10/072,697

Examiner: B. Pantuck

Filing Date:

February 7, 2002

Group Art Unit: 3731

Docket No.:

1001.1440101

Customer No.: 28075

For:

SURGICAL CLIP WITH A SELF-RELEASING FLUID RESERVOIR

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> Kathleen L. Boekley Type or print name of person signing certification

Movember 23, 2004

Dear Sir:

This paper is in response to the Final Office Action mailed September 23, 2004, with a shortened statutory period set to expire on December 23, 2004. This paper is filed within the set period for response such that no extension of time is necessary.

Please consider the following amendments and/or remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

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